

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated August 27, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendment and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-5 and 18-21 were withdrawn. Claims 6-17 and 22-25 were pending. Applicants have amended claims 6, 7, 15-17, 22, and 23 to more clearly define the invention. After these amendments, claims 6-17 and 22-25 remain pending in the application and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 11-17 were allowed, claims 22-25 were objected to because of informalities, and claims 6-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 11-17. Regarding the rejection of claims 6-10, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, Applicants have amended claims 6, 7, and 23 to overcome these rejection. The amendments of these claims have support in the specification at, for example, page 5, lines 20-22, and page 16, lines 9-11. Applicants have also amended claims 22 and 23 to correct the informalities noted in the Office Action. After these amendments, Applicants believe that the pending claims 6-17 and 22-25 are all in condition for allowance.

Serial No.: 09/417,051
Art Unit: 2611

Attorney's Docket No.: BS99-047
Page 8

In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

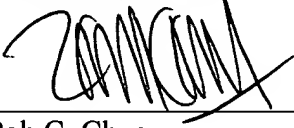
SHAW PITTMAN LLP
1650 Tysons Boulevard
McLean, VA 22102
Tel: 703-770-7667

Date: October 16, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

DUREDNI, ET AL.

By:



Poh C. Chua
Registration No. 44,615

PCC/CYM

Document #: 1253835 v.1